

Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office



Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office
Sheriff Wendell Hall

CITIZEN COMPLAINT REPORT

Nature of Complaint: Disturbance Date of Incident: 12-25-13
Location of Incident: Deaton Bridge Road, Holt, FL 32564
Member(s) Involved: 3

Complainant: Jennifer Vanlandingham Date of Birth: 09-21-70
5939 Ashton Woods Circle
Address: Milton, FL 32570 Telephone #: (850) 982-4812

Summary: SEE THREE PAGE TYPED ATTACHMENT.

I hereby swear and affirm that the above and all attached statements and/or documentation are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have fully read and understand the attached Florida State Statute § 112.533 regarding the Receipt and Processing of Complaints. Specifically, I acknowledge that until this investigation is completed, I am not to discuss my complaint with anyone other than the Deputy assigned to investigate my complaint or my legal representative.

Complainant's Signature:

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
30 day of DECEMBER 2013.

Craig B. Bell 15126 SRC50
Person Authorized to Administer Oath

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On December 25, 2013, I notified the SRSO of a disturbance involving myself, Jon Hayden (my boyfriend), Gabriel Stokes (my son), Jason Stokes (my ex-husband) along with Tina Stokes (Jason's wife), Alex Stokes (my son) and Joel Stokes (Jason's dad). I made this notification from my aunt's house located off of Deaton Bridge Road.

Deputy Stone arrived in the area and Jon and I made contact with him on the side of the road. Deputy Stone stayed in his vehicle and we spoke to him on the driver's side. He asked us to tell him what happen. Deputy Stone asked if I was threatened and I told him not verbally, however, I told him Jon had been threatened by Jason. Deputy Stone looked at Jon and said, "You weren't scared of him were you? I mean you are a big guy right?" Jon said, "No." I felt Deputy Stone was asking leading questions. I tried to explain to Deputy Stone the incident from beginning to end. He interrupted me several times and would never let me tell him. I asked him if he was going to write a report and he said, "I'm going to do what I gotta do." I told Deputy Stone Jason had a history of attempted suicide and he told me he wasn't concerned with the past. I told him I understood but I was trying to give him a history. I told him Jason had made threats toward me on the previous day and he said, "Yeah, I was at the station with Sgt. Groenenboom when I received the complaint." I was very frustrated because I was unable to tell him exactly what happened. Out of desperation, I squatted towards the ground in front of his door and asked him to please listen to me. Deputy Stone would never make eye contact with me and his body language was as if he didn't care or want to hear what I had to say. I asked him, at least, three times if he was going to write a report. He again told me was going to do what he had to do. Deputy stone eventually told me he would be writing a report. He continued to interrupt me more and engaged in a conversation about a murder in Gulf Breeze. I asked Deputy Stone, "Would you please listen to me?" I was begging but he would never listen. He also had a conversation with Jon about his military career. He told Jon he should not have been at Jason's house. At this point, I was in tears.

I eventually gave up and walked back to my Aunt's house. My cousin, Danny Wolfe, was standing near a wooded line in the area while we spoke with Deputy



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Stone and I'm not sure if he heard the conversation. Jon remained a few more minutes with Deputy Stone then eventually returned to the residence with a business card along with a case number.

On the following day, I picked up a copy of the report from the SRSO District 4 office and read it in the parking lot. I returned back in the building and asked the lady at the front desk who was Deputy Stone's supervisor and she stated Lt. Vega. She contacted Lt. Vega upon my request and he told her to leave a message on the supervisor's line. I called the number shortly thereafter and left my name along with my contact number. Lt. Vega returned my phone but I missed it. I called the supervisor's line again and left my name along with my phone number again. Lt. Vega returned my call the same day and I advised the report was inaccurate because there had been verbal threats. I asked Lt. Vega if the report could be changed and he stated I would need to contact Deputy Stone. Lt. Vega said, "I will tell you though if he doesn't want to change the report, he doesn't have to." I asked Lt. Vega who I would need to talk to next if the report was not changed. Lt. Vega told me to contact Deputy Stone on the following day.

On the following day, I called dispatch and requested Deputy Stone call me. Deputy Stone returned my phone call shortly thereafter. I placed Deputy Stone on speaker phone in the presence of Jon. Deputy Stone asked if I had him on speaker phone and I said, "Yes". I advised Deputy Stone he wrote in his report there were no threats made when there were threats made. Deputy Stone said, "I'm not changing the report." I asked him I needed to speak to. Deputy Stone said, "Sgt. Brinkerhoff and he is expecting your call." The call ended.

Deputy Stone called me back and said, "This is what I am going to do. I'm going to bring by a statement for you to fill out. You will have to swear to it." I told him that was fine and I was at home. The phone call ended and Deputy Stone arrived sometime thereafter. I asked for extra forms for Jon and Gabe to fill out. He provided them then left.

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I then contacted Sgt. Brinkerhoff and told him how aggravating the situation was. Sgt. Brinkerhoff asked if I would like to file a complaint and I stated yes. Sgt. Brinkerhoff provided the forms.

James H. Vanhook

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- (1) Every law enforcement agency and correctional agency shall establish and put into operation a system for the receipt, investigation, and determination of complaints received by such agency from any person.
- (2) (a) A complaint filed against a law enforcement deputy or detention deputy with a law enforcement agency or correctional agency and all information obtained pursuant to the investigation by the agency of such complaint shall be confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) until the investigation ceases to be active, or until the agency head or the agency head's designee provides written notice to the deputy who is the subject of the complaint, either personally or by mail, that the agency has either:
 1. Concluded the investigation with a finding not to proceed with disciplinary action or to file charges; or
 2. Concluded the investigation with a finding to proceed with disciplinary action or to file charges.

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the deputy who is the subject of the complaint may review the complaint and all statements regardless of form made by the complainant and witnesses immediately prior to the beginning of the investigative interview. If a witness to a complaint is incarcerated in a correctional facility and may be under the supervision of, or have contact with, the deputy under investigation, only the names and written statements of the complainant and no incarcerated witnesses may be reviewed by the deputy under investigation immediately prior to the beginning of the investigative interview.

- (a) This subsection does not apply to any public record which is exempt from public disclosure pursuant to F.S.S. 119.07(3). For the purposes of this subsection, an investigation shall be considered active as long as it is continuing with a reasonable, good faith anticipation that an administrative finding will be made in the foreseeable future. An investigation shall be presumed to be inactive if no finding is made within 45 days after the complaint is filed.
 - (a) Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, the complaint and information shall be available to law enforcement agencies, correctional agencies, and state attorneys in the conduct of a lawful criminal investigation.
- (1) A law enforcement deputy or detention deputy has the right to review his or her official personnel file at any reasonable time under the supervision of the designated records custodian. A law enforcement deputy or detention deputy may attach to the file a concise statement in response to any items included in the file identified by the deputy as derogatory, and copies of such items must be made available to the deputy.

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- (2) Any person who is a participant in an internal investigation, including the complainant, the subject of the investigation, the investigator conducting the investigation, and any witnesses in the investigation, who willfully discloses any information obtained pursuant to the agency's investigation, including, but not limited to, the identity of the deputy under investigation, the nature

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of the questions asked, information revealed, or documents furnished in connection with a confidential internal investigation of an agency, before such complaint, document, action, or proceeding becomes a public record as provided in this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in F.S.S. 775.082 or F.S.S. 775.083. However, this subsection does not limit a law enforcement or detention deputy's ability to gain access to information under paragraph (2)(a). Additionally, a sheriff, police chief, or other head of a law enforcement agency, or his or her designee, is not precluded by this section from acknowledging the existence of a complaint and the fact that an investigation is underway.

History.— F.S.S. 3, ch. 74-274; F.S.S. 3, ch. 82-156; F.S.S. 1, ch. 82-405; F.S.S. 1, ch. 83-136; F.S.S. 1, ch. 87-59; F.S.S. 2, ch. 89-223; F.S.S. 1, ch. 90-32; F.S.S. 31, ch. 90-360; F.S.S. 3, ch. 93-19; F.S.S. 722, ch. 95-147; F.S.S. 39, ch. 96-406; F.S.S. 2, ch. 98-249; F.S.S. 2, ch. 2000-184.

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Handwritten initials, possibly "SV", written in black ink over a horizontal line.